

Senate Resolution 1552

By: Senator Hill of the 4th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Quality in Early Care and Learning Study Committee; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, approximately 360,000 children in Georgia receive out-of-home child care each
4 day, with many of our state's children spending up to 12 hours a day in these facilities while
5 their parents work or attend school; and

6 WHEREAS, aside from a child's parent or primary caregiver, the child care provider is one
7 of the most important adults in a child's life; and

8 WHEREAS, research shows that the most important years for laying a solid foundation for
9 learning in a child's life are between birth and age five, and the quality of early care and
10 education that children receive during these years directly affects their ability and desire to
11 learn; and

12 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia, through the Department of Early Care and Learning,
13 regulates early care and education programs located in this state, including setting standards
14 for staff; and

15 WHEREAS, it is important for each child care provider in Georgia to have attained a level
16 of training and education appropriate for the provider's level of responsibility and the age of
17 children in his or her care; and

18 WHEREAS, the care and education children receive during their early years can provide a
19 foundation for a lifetime of learning and is essential to improving school performance in
20 Georgia; and

21 WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of our state to ensure that all children are receiving high
22 quality care from child care providers who are fully equipped to meet the demands of their
23 position.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate
25 Quality in Early Care and Learning Study Committee to be composed of five members of the
26 Senate appointed by the Lieutenant Governor. The Lieutenant Governor shall designate a
27 member of the committee as chairperson of the committee. The chairperson shall call all
28 meetings of the committee.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
30 needs, issues, problems, and opportunities as mentioned above or related thereto and
31 recommend any action or legislation that the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The
32 committee may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem
33 necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its
34 duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The committee may
35 call upon persons with expertise in early childhood development, including child care
36 associations and child care providers, and upon members of the business community or
37 persons and organizations as deemed necessary by the committee to fully explore the issues
38 specified by this resolution. The members of the committee shall receive the allowances
39 authorized for legislative members of interim legislative committees but shall receive the
40 same for not more than three days unless additional days are authorized. The funds necessary
41 to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds appropriated to the
42 Senate. In the event that the committee makes a report of its findings and recommendations
43 with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before
44 December 31, 2010. The committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2010.